

Jennifer Buchholz, MA
Bureau Chief, Special Projects/California Partners for Permanency
Department of Social Services

Jennifer Buchholz joined California Department of Social Services (CDSS) in September of 2013 as the Project Manager of the California Partners for Permanency (CAPP) project, a five-year federal grant aimed to reduce disparities and disproportionality in California's child welfare system. Jennifer provides planning, leadership and coordination of the CAPP project that includes managing a diverse group of individuals representing counties, stakeholders, contractors and others including federal technical assistance and evaluation teams. Key to her role is understanding, engaging and valuing the strengths and resources of families and their supportive communities and Tribes and applying those resources to address systemic barriers within the child welfare arena. Recognizing historical trauma as well as institutional and structural racism and engaging in meaningful collaboration with partners has led to improvements in the child welfare system and strengthened relationships between government agencies, Tribes and community partners. In developing infrastructure to support the CAPP project beyond the five-year grant period, Jennifer has been building readiness within CDSS to understand implicit bias and usability test a Racial Impact Assessment. Prior to joining state service in 2013, Jennifer lived abroad and served with the United Nations and other non-governmental organizations working on the protection and promotion of international human rights focusing on anti-discrimination, indigenous rights and child rights and she brings a global human rights based approach to her work.



Kathleen T. Howard

***Executive Director
(Appointed by the Governor)***

Gov. Jerry Brown appointed Kathleen (Katie) Howard executive director of the Board of State and Community Corrections in October 2013.

After earning a Master's degree in Public Policy in 1990, Ms. Howard began a 21-year career with the Judicial Council of California, where she gained a broad range of experience in the legal division, budget division, and Center for Families Children & the Courts. She worked in the office of Governmental Affairs for 14 years, rising from legislative advocate, to manager, assistant director and director.

While there she played key roles in the major legislative and budgetary changes that affected the California court system, including state trial court funding, advocacy for new judgeships, and the development and implementation of a uniform civil fee schedule.

In 2011, the California Senate appointed Ms. Howard to the California Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board, a quasi-judicial role in which she reviewed thousands of second-level appeals in unemployment and disability cases.

At the BSCC Ms. Howard leads day-to-day operations, and engages in strategic planning with BSCC leadership, staff and stakeholders. As Executive Director, she also ensures that the BSCC successfully continues its role with local governments to establish training standards for local correctional personnel, to administer federal and state criminal- and juvenile-justice grants to counties, to inspect local jails and juvenile detentions facilities, and to offer technical assistance to counties on the historic shift in the local supervision of low-level offenders known as Public Safety Realignment.

Ms. Howard earned a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Irvine, and a master's degree from the University of California, Berkeley.

Shalinee Hunter

Shalinee Hunter is a Field Representative for the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC), the agency tasked with providing leadership and technical assistance to the adult and juvenile criminal justice systems in California. Since 2006 Ms. Hunter has been the Disproportionate Minority Contact Coordinator, a federal designation from the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Her work involves direct contact with top decision-makers of these systems to provide the technical support needed to develop and implement local, state and national policy reforms particularly as it relates to juvenile justice and disparity issues for California, the most diverse state in the country.

Nationally Ms. Hunter just finished two terms as the National DMC Coordinator (an elected position by the Coalition for Juvenile Justice an organization that represents states on racial and ethnic disparity issues across the country). She has participated in several think-tanks made up of experts from across the country including individuals from the Georgetown Juvenile Justice Reform Program, the Casey Foundation, MacArthur Foundation, W. Haywood Burns Institute, etc. tasked with the development of a national action plan to further assist the federal government and its stakeholders in implementing federal policy regarding Disproportionate Minority Contact. In 2014 in response to the Department of Justice's 3-year investigation and findings of racial disparities and civil rights violations, Ms. Hunter was part of the faculty that conducted implicit bias trainings for the Shelby County Tennessee Juvenile Court.

In 2008 Ms. Hunter attended the Georgetown Center for Juvenile Justice Reform Certificate Program. For her capstone project she designed a school to prison pipeline training program that today remains a model for addressing issues related to the school to prison pipeline.

In 2013 Ms. Hunter was awarded the Courageous Leadership award from W. Haywood Burns Institute, for "moving the juvenile justice continuum of California forward, and helping to place the State back on track to become a leader in regards to its treatment of at-risk youth and youthful offender. This award is a testament to her voice in the discourse on racial and ethnic disparity.

Ms. Hunter is also second year law student with an anticipated graduation of 2018.